Drought assistance to Andhra Pradesh

4333. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA:
DR. AKHJLESH DAS:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI KALAVENKATARAO:
SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government had submitted a demand for Rs. 2373 crore more of drought aid to the central team visiting the State-capital on February 6,2002;

(b) if so, the details of the demand for drought relief spelt out by Andhra Government and the Central Government's response thereto; and

(c) how the aid granted for drought relief and allied measures to Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhatisgarh and other drought hit States this year, for different relief measures compare, indicating the extent of damage to crop and other afflictions and population hit thereby in each State as compared to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A study Team visited Andhra Pradesh in early February, 2003 for assessment of the situation regarding further assistance from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), etc. to the State for the current drought. The report of the Team was considered by the High Level Committee (HLC) in its meeting held on 23-3-2003 and the HLC, approved Rs. 224.43 cross for Andhra Pradesh subject to adjustment of 50% of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) allocation to the State for 2003-2004. After such adjustment, Rs. 109.79 crores from NCCF was found admissible and was released to the state.

(c) There is ready availability for funds with the States under CRF for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. Additional assistance from NCCF is considered for all States for natural calamities of severe nature, in accordance with the items and norms of expenditure for assistance from CRF and NCCF.

Grants to HP from National Commission for Cattle

4334. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the National Commission for Cattle was established;